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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Vietmannsdorf Airfield

DATE DISTR. 21 October 1953

NO. OF PAGES 4

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO. RD

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PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Runway.

- a. During the reporting period, a further three strips have been laid down, bringing the total up to seven. The concrete-covered runway area now measures 50 by 4,000 meters (seven strips, each seven meters wide), with another seven-meter strip about half completed.
- b. Three additional seven-meter strips have been marked out parallel to the existing seven and a half strips, giving the 4,000-meter runway a total width of approximately 80 meters.
- c. A dirt-surfaced extension of the runway, about 150 meters in length, is located at the western end of the runway, with a similar extension, about 500 meters long, situated at the eastern end.
- d. The concrete has a uniform depth of 40 centimeters. It is being laid onto a base of processed paper which rests directly on the tightly packed sandy sub-soil. There are no signs of metal reinforcements in the concrete.

2. New Construction.a. Perimeter track

Preparations for pouring the concrete for a perimeter track are almost complete. In an area about 500 meters south of, and parallel to, the main runway (see Item 3 on sketch), the woods have been cleared, and the ground leveled, to a total width of 120 meters, and a center portion, 20 meters wide and 60 centimeters deep, has been excavated for the entire length of the perimeter track. On three strips, made up of sections measuring seven meters in length, six meters in width and 40 centimeters in depth, concrete has already been poured up to a distance of about 100 meters. (See Item 3a on sketch).

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b. Fuel Installation

Excavation work has started in a large portion of the woods in the south-west corner of the project. A 10 x 18 meter area has already been excavated to a depth of five meters. It is understood that an underground fuel installation is to be set up at this site.

c. Airfield barracks

It is proposed to build more barracks for airfield personnel in the vicinity of the village of Kurtschlag.

3. Personnel.

- a. An additional 500 [] workers [] have arrived at the site from the island of Ruegen. This brings the number of [] workers at the Vietmannsdorf airfield project up to 3,000. 50X1-HUM
- b. Eight hundred laborers, divided into three shifts, are working 24 hours a day on the construction of the runway itself. 50X1-HUM

4. Equipment.

Another five diesel locomotives [] have arrived from the island of Ruegen. The equipment used at the airfield site now comprises the following:

- 10 concrete mixers, each with a capacity of .75 cubic meters;
- 3 concrete pouring machines;
- 7 bulldozers;
- 4 heavy cranes;
- 1 mechanical shovel;
- 3 mechanical rollers;
- 4 scrubbers;
- 45 narrow-gauge diesel locomotives;
- 360 small-gauge lorries;
- 11 small four-wheeled dump trucks.

5. Miscellaneous.

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A visiting Soviet officer, inspecting progress at the site, told the [] supervisor that the airfield must be completed, and ready to be turned over to the Soviets, by the middle of October 1953.

6. Military Activity..

The following Soviet military vehicles were observed in the vicinity of Vietmannsdorf:

- a. 17 July: Two trucks [] drivers wearing black and red shoulderboards; [] 50X1-HUM
- b. 19 July: Truck, [] carrying 20 enlisted men wearing black and red shoulderboards and artillery insignia, and towing a 57 mm anti-tank gun; jeep [] with an officer wearing tank troop insignia; 30 motorcycles with sidecars; 15 GAZ-51 trucks [] 50X1-HUM
- c. 21 July: Five T 34-85 tank []

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- d. 24 July: Trucks, [] both towing a 57 mm anti-tank
gun. 50X1-HUM

LEGEND

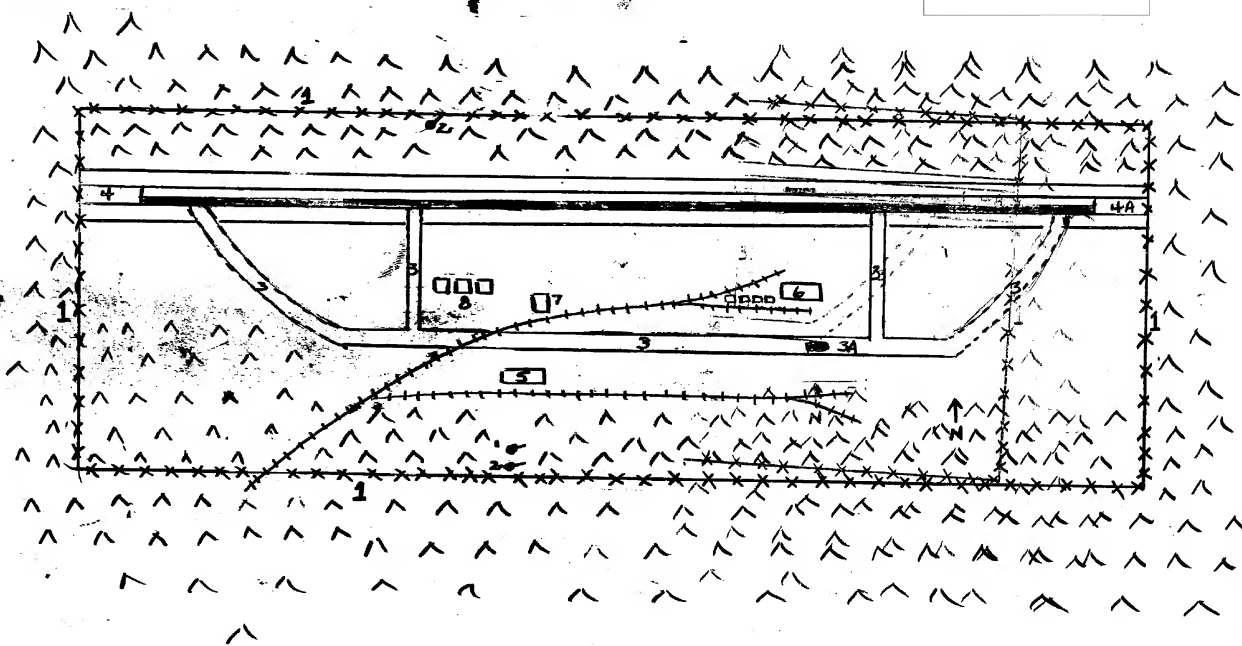
1. Checkpoint at entrance to site manned by Soviet personnel wearing black/red shoulderboards. 50X1-HUM
2. Checkpoint at entrance to site manned by [] black-uniformed police.
3. Site of new perimeter track under construction.
- 3a. Three concrete strips being constructed on the new perimeter track.
4. Dirt runway extension 150 m in length.
- 4a. Dirt runway extension 500 m in length. 50X1-HUM
5. Underground fuel tank, capacity about 4,000 liters, for [] vehicles employed at the site.
6. Wood and concrete hangar, at present used as storehouse for cement. 50X1-HUM
7. Underground fuel tank, capacity about 4,000 liters, for [] vehicles employed at the site.
8. Depot for diesel locomotives.

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Annex:

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Vietnam's Dong Airfield

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